

**Federal Communications Commission Rural Health Care Pilot Program
Wyoming Network for Telehealth (WyNETTE) Quarterly Data Report
31 July 2012**

1. Project Contact and Coordination Information

a. Identify the project leader(s) and respective business affiliations.

Dr. Rex Gantenbein, University of Wyoming (Associate Project Coordinator)
Larry Biggio, Wyoming Health Information Organization

b. Provide a complete address for postal delivery and the telephone, fax, and e-mail address for the responsible administrative official.

Dr. Dorothy C. Yates, Associate VP for Research and Economic Development
University of Wyoming
1000 E. University Avenue, Department 3355
Laramie WY 82071
Telephone: 307.766.5320
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c. Identify the organization that is legally and financially responsible for the conduct of activities supported by the award.

University of Wyoming

d. Explain how project is being coordinated throughout the state or region.

A consortium of state agencies, private health organization and professional and community organizations exists to coordinate the network development with other telehealth-related activities in Wyoming. Members were appointed by the Director of the Wyoming Department of Health. The group meets monthly, and reports on this project are given at each meeting. In lieu of developing a separate advisory committee, the consortium has assumed the responsibility of developing the governance and financial structure for the network in cooperation with the University.

Project and fiscal management has been provided by staff at the University of Wyoming, through funding from a HRSA ORHP Rural Health Care Network Development grant. This grant ended in April 2011; however, funding from a HRSA Office of Health Information Technology grant was used to continue support for a skeleton staff, consisting of the project manager and a technician. The project manager has resigned to take another position and the technician is on leave until August 2012. No staff other than the PI remain to manage the project.

2. Identify all health care facilities included in the network.

A list of facilities in the state participating in the project is provided in Attachment A. Several sites, as shown in the attachment, have voluntarily withdrawn from the project, as they found the network underutilized and/or insufficient for their connectivity needs.

3. Network Narrative.

a. Brief description of the backbone network of the dedicated health care network

The network, as implemented, consists of an ATM-based "cloud" through which all participating sites will be connected. The selected vendor is providing the equipment, lines, and management of the network as part of their contract.

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b. Explanation of how health care provider sites will connect to (or access) the network, including the access technologies/services and transmission speeds

Hospitals with more than 25 beds were connected with dual T1 connections; all other sites were connected with single T1 connections. All sites were provided with routers to connect to the network as part of the project.

c. Explanation of how and where the network will connect to a national backbone such as NLR or Internet2

A collection point was established at the Division of Information Technology at the University of Wyoming as part of the project. The University has a redundant connection to Internet2 via the Front Range Gigapop that has been available to the sites.

d. Number of miles of fiber construction, and whether the fiber is buried or aerial

No fiber was installed as part of this project. All connections used existing copper wire.

e. Special systems or services for network management or maintenance (if applicable) and where such systems reside or are based

All network services and maintenance are being managed by the vendor.

4. List of Connected Health Care Providers.

See Appendix A. The network is being used for a small number of healthcare operations (see item 10 below).

5. Identify the following non-recurring and recurring costs, where applicable, shown both as budgeted and actually incurred for the applicable quarter and funding year to-date.

An invoice was paid by USAC in January in the amount of \$435,642.99 to cover recurring and non-recurring charges through August 2011. Three line items in the original invoice were not allowed due to inconsistencies with the documented costs. A new invoice in the amount of \$15,286.44 was sent to the vendor in March 2012 to cover these three items. To date, the invoice has not been submitted by the vendor to USAC.

The matching funds paid to the vendor total \$70,405.44. This represents a shortfall of \$9,170.34 for the two invoices submitted. **An invoice has been submitted by the vendor for the remaining matching funds and is in process for payment.**

A new invoice for \$199,741.20, covering monthly recurring charges from September 2011 through January 2012, is in preparation, after a conversation with the vendor resulted in the necessary supporting documentation being submitted. However, RHCPP management has required that the NCW be revised before additional invoices could be processed. We have requested support from USAC to review and revise the NCW but have not yet had a response from our USAC representative.

6. Describe how costs have been apportioned and the sources of the funds to pay them.

a. Explain how costs are identified, allocated among, and apportioned to both eligible and ineligible network participants.

Costs were specified in the vendor contract. The contract indicates that costs will

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be distributed equally among the participants that receive the same services (T1 or dual T1 connectivity). The actual costs as invoiced in November vary widely depending on the service provider and the location, but the total costs thus far are less than the contracted amount for both the non-recurring and recurring costs.

b. Describe the source of funds from eligible and non-eligible participants.

The community mental health/substance abuse centers in the state continuing to participate in the project have pledged 15% matching funds to the project, once the initial matching funds have been expended (see next section).

c. Show contributions from all other sources.

The project has received \$115,000 in matching funds from the Wyoming Department of Health through its Division of Emergency Preparedness (\$100,000) and the State Office of Rural Health (\$15,000). Funding from the latter account has been fully expended, but a balance remains in the former.

Based on the most recent costs, these funds are estimated to be expended when invoices are submitted for February through April 2012. Requests for matching funds will be sent to the sites continuing with the project in August 2012.

d. Explain how the selected participant's minimum 15 percent contribution is helping to achieve both the selected participant's identified goals and objectives and the overarching goals of the Pilot Program.

The matching funds demonstrate a commitment to developing telehealth capacity in Wyoming from both the State and private healthcare providers. Such commitment is necessary to ensure its adoption and sustainability.

7. Identify any technical or non-technical requirements or procedures necessary for ineligible entities to connect to the participant's network.

No ineligible entities are currently participating.

8. Provide an update on the project management plan, detailing:

a. The project's current leadership and management structure and any changes to the management structure since the last data report.

The lead contact for the vendor retired in December 2012. Her duties have been assigned to another employee of the vendor, who only recently responded to our requests for the documentation needed to prepare invoices. It appears that individual is now aware of the process and will cooperate in the future.

b. The project schedule.

We intended continue invoicing for the remaining sites until the allocated funds have been expended. Based on current costs and assuming the willingness of the sites to provide matching funds, we anticipate this to happen in June 2013.

| TASK | DEADLINE |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Complete network design | 29 August 2008 (completed) |
| Collect Letters of Agency | 30 October 2008 (completed) |
| Submit Form 465 for informal review | 15 November 2008 (completed) |
| Revise Form 465 and submit | 10 April 2009 (completed) |

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Review responses to Form 465 | 10 June 2009 (completed) |
| Execute vendor contract | 15 March 2010 (completed) |
| Submit Form 466A | 30 May 2010 (completed) |
| Deploy network | 30 November 2010 (completed) |
| Submit Form 467/SAL received | 9 November 2010 (completed) |
| Begin invoicing | 15 November 2011 (completed) |

9. *Provide detail on whether network is or will become self-sustaining. Selected participants should provide an explanation of how the network is self-sustaining.*

A formal sustainability plan was submitted as part of the Form 466A process. It was accepted by the FCC prior to the issue of the Funding Commitment letter. A copy of this plan was previously provided and has not changed.

As noted in the previous report, all hospitals and primary clinics initially connected to the network have requested to be disconnected from the network. This was accomplished in January 2012. The state telehealth consortium is currently working with these sites to transfer them to the regular Rural Health Care program. With the loss of these sites from the network, we are working with the remaining sites (largely mental health and substance abuse centers) and the vendor to make changes to the network that will lead to sustainability.

10. *Provide detail on how the supported network has advanced telemedicine benefits.*

The remaining sites in the network are using the connections to provide mental and behavioral health services to distant sites. Many of the sites that have discontinued participation are also providing primary and specialty care to other locations through alternative communication mechanisms.

11. *Provide detail on how the supported network has complied with HHS health IT initiatives.*

The network has not addressed these initiatives.

12. *Explain how the selected participants coordinated in the use of their health care networks with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and, in particular, with its Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in instances of national, regional, or local public health emergencies (e.g., pandemics, bioterrorism). In such instances, where feasible, explain how selected participants provided access to their supported networks to HHS, including CDC, and other public health officials.*

At this time, this coordination has not taken place.

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ATTACHMENT A: Health care facilities participating in the Wyoming Network for Telehealth

NOTE: Highlighted sites were disconnected from the network as of January 2012, as discussed in the attached report.

| Facility Name | Address | County | RUCA | Phone # | Facility Type | Eligible for RHCPP Funding |
|--|--|-------------|------|--------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Big Horn Clinic (Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital) | 156 N 6th Street, Basin WY 81410 | Big Horn | 10 | 307-568-2499 | Public, non-profit rural health clinic | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Campbell County Memorial Hospital | 501 S. Burman Ave., Gillette WY 82717 | Campbell | 4 | 307-688-1551 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Crook County Medical Services District | 713 Oak Street, Sundance WY 82729 | Crook | 10 | 307-283-3501 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital | 150 E. Arapahoe, Thermopolis WY 82443 | Hot Springs | 7 | 307-864-3121 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Hulett Clinic (Crook County Medical Services District) | 122 Main Street, Hulett WY 82720 | Crook | 10.5 | 307-467-5281 | Public non-profit rural health clinic | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Ivinson Memorial Hospital | 255 North 30th St., Laramie WY 82070 | Albany | 4 | 307-742-2141 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Johnson County Memorial Hospital | 497 West Lott, Buffalo WY 82834 | Johnson | 7 | 307-684-5521 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Memorial Hospital of Carbon County | 2221 West Elm Street, Rawlins WY 82301 | Carbon | 7 | 307-324-8213 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |

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|---|--|----------|------|--------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Memorial Hospital of Converse County | 111 S. Fifth Street, Douglas WY 82633 | Converse | 7 | 307-358-1454 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Moorcroft Clinic (Crook County Medical Services District) | 101 West Crook, Moorcroft WY 82721 | Crook | 10.5 | 307-756-3414 | Public, non-profit rural health clinic | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| North Big Horn Hospital District | 1115 Lane 12, Lovell WY 82431 | Big Horn | 10 | 307-548-5200 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Platte Valley Medical Clinic | 1208 S. River St., Saratoga WY 82331 | Carbon | 10.6 | 307-326-8381 | Public, non-profit rural health clinic | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Powell Valley Healthcare | 777 Avenue H, Powell WY 82435 | Park | 7 | 307-754-2267 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| South Big Horn County Hospital District | 88 South US Hwy. 20, Basin WY 82410 | Big Horn | 10 | 307-568-3311 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| South Lincoln Medical Center | 711 Onyx Street, Kemmerer WY 83101 | Lincoln | 7 | 307-877-4401 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Star Valley Medical Center | 910 Adams Street, Afton WY 83110 | Lincoln | 10 | 307-885-5800 | Public, non-profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Univ. of Wyoming College of Health Sciences | 236 Health Sciences Center, Laramie WY 82071 | Albany | 4 | 307-766-6556 | State university offering health care education | YES: other eligible entity |

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|--|---|----------|------|--------------|--|---|
| West Park Hospital | 707 Sheridan Avenue, Cody WY 82414 | Park | 7 | 307-578-2488 | Public, non- profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| West Park Hospital Cathcart Medical Office Building | 424 Yellowstone Highway, Cody WY 82414 | Park | 7 | 307-578-2488 | Public, non- profit hospital (new location) | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Weston County Health Services | 1124 Washington, Newcastle WY 82701 | Weston | 7 | 307-746-4491 | Public, non- profit hospital | YES: certified by State of Wyoming |
| Wyoming State Hospital | 831 Highway 150 South, Evanston WY 82930 | Uinta | 4 | 307-789-3464 | Public, non- profit hospital | YES: State- operated facility |
| Big Horn Basin Counseling Service | 116 South 3rd St., Basin WY 82410 | Big Horn | 10 | 307-568-2020 | Public, non- profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Big Horn Basin Counseling Service | 1114 Lane 12, Lovell WY 82431 | Big Horn | 10 | 307-548-6543 | Public, non- profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Carbon County Counseling Center | 112 E. Bridge, Saratoga WY 82331 | Carbon | 10.6 | 307-324-7156 | Public, non- profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |

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|--------------------------------------|---|---------|----|--------------|--|--|
| Central Wyoming Counseling Center | 1430 Wilkins Circle, Casper WY 82601 | Natrona | 1 | 307-237-9583 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Fremont Counseling Service: Lander | 748 Main Street, Lander WY 82520 | Fremont | 7 | 307-332-2231 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Fremont Counseling Service: Riverton | 1110 Major Ave, Riverton WY 82501 | Fremont | 4 | 307-856-6587 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| High Country Behavioral Health | 389 Adams, Afton WY 83110 | Lincoln | 10 | 307-885-9883 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| High Country Behavioral Health | 821 Sage Avenue, Kemmerer WY 83101 | Lincoln | 7 | 307-877-4466 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |

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|--|--|----------|----|--------------|--|--|
| High Country Behavioral Health | 24 Country Club Lane, Pinedale WY 82941 | Sublette | 10 | 307-367-2111 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Jackson Hole Community Counseling Center | 640 E. Broadway, Jackson WY 83001 | Teton | 4 | 307-733-2046 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center: Buffalo | 521 W. Lott St, Buffalo WY 82834 | Johnson | 7 | 307-684-5531 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center: Newcastle | 420 Deanne Ave., Newcastle WY 82701 | Weston | 7 | 307-746-4456 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center: Sheridan | 1221 West 5 th Street, Sheridan WY 82801 | Sheridan | 4 | 307-674-4405 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |

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|---|---|----------|----|--------------|--|--|
| Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center: Sundance | 420-1/2 Main St., Sundance WY 82729 | Crook | 10 | 307-283-3636 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center: Supported Independence Program | 1701 West 5 th Street, Suite C, Sheridan WY 82801 | Sheridan | 4 | 307-674-5534 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |
| Yellowstone Behavioral Health Center | 2538 Big Horn Avenue, Cody WY 82414 | Park | 7 | 307-587-2197 | Public, non-profit mental health clinic/ substance abuse center | YES: provides core outpatient services |